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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Shih-Yuan WANG et al.

Serial No. : 10/693,018

Group Art Unit: 2874

Date Filed : October 24, 2003

Examiner: Phan T.H. Palmer

For: OPTICAL FIBER COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM USING INDEX-GUIDING
MICROSTRUCTURED OPTICAL FIBERS

Conf. No.: 1761

Class-Subclass: 385-125000

Issue Fee Due Date: December 27, 2004

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**APPLICANTS' COMMENTS ON
EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Sir:

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's Statement of the Reasons for Allowance attached to the Notice of Allowability dated September 24, 2004 and submit that the allowed claims recite subject matter which further supports patentability for reasons in addition to those identified in the Reasons for Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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December 22, 2004
Date